
By: **Delegate McHale**
Introduced and read first time: February 25, 2004
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations
Re-referred to: Ways and Means, March 8, 2004

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 26, 2004

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program -**
3 **Eligibility**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the eligibility requirements for the Edward T. Conroy
5 Memorial Scholarship Program to include students attending a Maryland high
6 school at the time of application or persons who graduated from a Maryland
7 high school within a certain time period; and generally relating to eligibility for
8 the Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Education
11 Section 18-601
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article - Education**

17 18-601.

18 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

19 (2) "Disabled public safety employee" means a State or local public safety
20 employee who sustains an injury in the line of duty that:

1 (i) Precludes the individual from continuing to serve or be
2 employed as a State or local public safety employee; and

3 (ii) In the case of a volunteer member of a fire department or
4 ambulance or rescue company or squad, precludes the member from continuing to be
5 employed in the nonpublic safety occupation in which the member is engaged at the
6 time of the injury.

7 (3) "Surviving spouse" means a person who has not remarried.

8 (4) "State or local public safety employee" means a person who is:

9 (i) A career or volunteer member of a:

10 1. Fire department;

11 2. Ambulance company or squad; or

12 3. Rescue company or squad;

13 (ii) A law enforcement officer;

14 (iii) A correctional officer; or

15 (iv) A member of the Maryland National Guard who was a resident
16 of this State at the time of death.

17 (5) "Victim of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks" means a
18 Maryland resident who was killed as a result of the attacks on the World Trade
19 Center in New York City, the attack on the Pentagon in Virginia, or the crash of
20 United Airlines Flight 93 in Pennsylvania.

21 (b) There is a program of scholarships that are awarded under this section.

22 (c) The Program is the Edward T. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program.

23 (d) A person may apply to the Office for a scholarship under this section if the
24 person:

25 (1) (I) Is a resident of Maryland;

26 (II) IS A STUDENT AT A MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL AT THE TIME OF
27 APPLICATION; OR

28 (III) GRADUATED FROM A MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL WITHIN 3
29 MONTHS OF APPLICATION;

30 (2) (i) Is accepted for admission or enrolled in the regular
31 undergraduate, graduate or professional program at an eligible institution; or

1 (ii) Is enrolled in a 2-year terminal certificate program in which
 2 the course work is acceptable for transfer credit for an accredited baccalaureate
 3 program in an eligible institution; and

4 (3) (i) Is at least 16 years old and a son or daughter of a member of the
 5 armed forces who was a resident of this State at the time the parent:

6 1. Died or was totally and permanently disabled as a result
 7 of military service after December 7, 1941; or

8 2. Was declared to be a prisoner of war or missing in action,
 9 if that occurred on or after January 1, 1960 as a result of the Vietnam conflict, and if
 10 the child was born prior to or while the parent was a prisoner of war or missing in
 11 action;

12 (ii) Was a prisoner of war on or after January 1, 1960 as a result of
 13 the Vietnam conflict and was a resident of this State at the time the person was
 14 declared to be a prisoner of war or missing in action;

15 (iii) 1. Is at least 16 years old and a son or daughter of any State
 16 or local public safety employee killed in the line of duty; or

17 2. Is the surviving spouse of any State or local public safety
 18 employee killed in the line of duty;

19 (iv) Is a disabled public safety employee;

20 (v) Is a veteran, as defined under § 9-901 of the State Government
 21 Article, who:

22 1. Suffers a service-related disability of 25% or greater; and

23 2. Has exhausted or is no longer eligible for federal veterans'
 24 educational benefits; or

25 (vi) Is at least 16 years old and a son or daughter of or the surviving
 26 spouse of a victim of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

27 (e) A scholarship awarded under this section:

28 (1) May be used for the tuition and mandatory fees at any eligible
 29 institution; and

30 (2) May not:

31 (i) Exceed the equivalent annual tuition and mandatory fees of a
 32 resident undergraduate student at the 4-year public institution of higher education
 33 within the University System of Maryland, other than the University of Maryland
 34 University College and University of Maryland, Baltimore, with the highest annual
 35 expenses for a full-time resident undergraduate; and

- 1 (ii) Be less than the lesser of:
- 2 1. \$3,000; or
- 3 2. The equivalent annual tuition and mandatory fees of a
4 resident of the institution attended by the recipient of the scholarship.

5 (f) (1) Each recipient of a scholarship under this section may hold the award
6 for 5 years of full-time study or 8 years of part-time study.

7 (2) The Office may not award more than 15 scholarships annually under
8 subsection (d)(3)(v) of this section.

9 (3) An award provided under subsection (d)(3)(vi) of this section may not
10 exceed the amount specified in subsection (e)(2) of this section when combined with
11 any other scholarship received by a student based on the student's status as a child or
12 spouse of a victim of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

13 (g) The Commission:

14 (1) May accept any gift or grant from any person for the Edward T.
15 Conroy Scholarship Fund;

16 (2) Shall use any gift or grant that it receives for a scholarship from the
17 Program; and

18 (3) Shall deposit any gift or grant that it receives for the Program with
19 the State Treasurer in a nonbudgeted account.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 July 1, 2004.